

PROGRAM GUIDELINES:

RANGE OF PROJECTS (Pages 5-9 of Program Guidelines)

1. Considering the mission and goals of the Conservancy, are the types of projects described in the Program Guidelines representative of needs in your community?

yes. As an individual who participated in the workshops on developing categories of natural & cultural assets of the Sierra, I was very pleased to see our concerns reflected in the program areas.

Land Use planning might be ~~an additional category~~ ^{expanded upon}. We, as citizens, may have a vision of cultural & natural resource protection, enhancement & ~~scale~~ necessary to convey a "sense of place", but there is a fairly wide gap between this vision and local government & "planning" departments.

AVAILABLE TOOLS, METHODS, AND RESOURCES (Page 11 of Program Guidelines)

2. The Conservancy is proposing to include a number of different methods, tools, and resources in its Program Guidelines to assist eligible partners throughout the Region. After reviewing these, are there other tools or activities that should be added to the guidelines?

yes. The SNC strategic plan is viewed by many as progressive, forward thinking and long overdue, to some, however, it will be viewed suspiciously. "a communist plot"! Many communities struggle with this, and SNC quickly becomes labeled as a front for antigrowth. In light of this, it would be extremely beneficial if SNC staff initiated individual county forums targeting planners, boards, special districts, Forest Service, BLM and develop a simple decision-making rubric e.g. a list of multiple benefits. (uncannily resembling SNC program areas) that projects must meet before they are approved. (on the local level)

PROJECT EVALUATION (Pages 15-17 of Program Guidelines)

3. This section of the guidelines describes several criteria that will be used by the Conservancy to evaluate potential projects. After reviewing the guidelines, should we be including or considering different or additional criteria?

Sub-regional priorities must be of multiple benefits. All projects must put the physical functions of the natural environment as a benefit, if not priority. The condition of our natural resources will drive social & economic well being. All too often a "balance" between recreational pressure and natural resources equates to an acceptable level of degradation & loss over time. Performance measures & indices should measure overall health of a watershed and how a project contributes to it.

Cultural resources & heritage are mentioned elsewhere but not under eligible projects. Unless I missed something.

PROPOSITION 84 GRANTS GUIDELINES

ELIGIBLE PROJECTS (Page 2 Proposition 84 Grants Guidelines)

4. Pursuant to language in Proposition 84, these guidelines identify types of projects eligible for grant funding. After reviewing this section, do you have recommendations to clarify descriptions of eligible projects?

There needs to be an objective about protection and restoration of cultural resources. The motherlode and surrounding National Forests are filled with Gold Rush era history. Highway 49 is a destination, historic gold rush towns are examples of mixed-zoning and are rooted in multi-culturalism. The very ^{aura} of California - the "boom or bust" sense of entrepreneurship started in the motherlode. We are losing a lot of history to poor planning & sprawl.

ISSUANCE OF GRANTS (Pages 3-12 of Proposition 84 Grants Guidelines)

5. These guidelines describe two types of proposed grants:

- 1) Competitive Grants – are grants awarded on an annual cycle, for acquisition and site improvement projects.
- 2) Strategic Opportunity Grants – are grants awarded on an ongoing bases, for program and planning projects.

After reviewing the proposed types of grants, does the process and evaluation criteria appear reasonable? Is there additional information that could assist you in completing the application process?

Yes, however I would ask: is the project consistent with the General Plan. Does the project strengthen or weaken the G.P. Is the project compatible with BLM & FS land-use guidelines. Does the project reduce ^{at least} one of the four threats nationally identified to public land. ① Loss of open space, ② Fire & fuels, ③ Noxious weeds ④ Unmanaged recreation (OHV etc.)

A good, specific evaluation criteria needs to be tailored to the Sierra & future land-use planning.

Your Input:

The Conservancy is interested in receiving your input on both sets of guidelines. Please consider the questions in this packet as primers to help generate constructive comments for improving the guidelines. All comments will be recorded.

To submit additional comments:

E-mail: geninfo@sierranevada.ca.gov

Mail to:

Fax to: (530) 823-4665

Sierra Nevada Conservancy
11521 Blocker Drive, Ste. 205
Auburn, CA 95603

Updates to the guidelines can be viewed on the Conservancy's website at www.sierranevada.ca.gov

All comments must be received by Monday, April 16, 2007

Please describe any specific projects in your community that you believe may be eligible for a Conservancy grant.

Project Name: Historic Canal system preservation and Water conservation
Description: Management Plan to enhance ① Historic canal ② Biological ③ connectivity ④ Fire protection ⑤ Recreation ⑥ H2O conservation ⑦ Availability of Agricultural H2O
Location: Tuolumne County
Estimated project cost (if known): \$250,000 ?

Please check conservancy program areas that may be met by implementing this project.

- ☒ Provide increased opportunities for tourism and recreation.
- ☐ Protect, conserve, and restore the region's physical, cultural, archaeological, historical, and living resources.
- ☒ Aid in the preservation of working landscapes.
- ☐ Reduce the risk of natural disasters, such as wildfires.
- ☐ Protect and improve water and air quality.
- ☐ Assist the regional economy through the operation of the conservancy's program.
- ☐ Undertake efforts to enhance public use and enjoyment of lands owned by the public.